

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A stapler comprising:

a driver that is movable up and down relative to a magazine accommodating connected staples;

a guide surface that guides a movement of the driver; and

a pusher that presses a leading-end staple of the connected staples to the guide surface,

~~wherein the pusher includes a support surface, wherein a part of the support surface protrudes to an inside of the leading end staple,~~

wherein at least the leading end of the connected staples is formed in a C-shape having an upper portion extending lengthwise and having ~~two ends~~ a first end and a second end, with ~~an a first end portion~~ a first end portion substantially perpendicularly extending from ~~each of the two ends~~ the first end of the upper portion ~~and the second end portion~~ substantially perpendicularly extending from the second end of the upper portion; and

~~the pusher includes a support surface is located near and under that supports the~~
center in the lengthwise direction of the upper portion of the leading-end staple.

2. (Canceled)